

\$12,000 SOUGHT FOR MEMORIAL

Selma, Ala

Youth Camp Will Honor
Negro War Dead In

Dallas County
Times Journal

The colored people of Dallas County who have bought and paid for 110 acres of land on Highway 80 to develop a Negro youth camp have combined with the effort a project to recognize colored soldiers who gave their lives in the war, and will launch a campaign to raise \$12,000 for the combined programs on September 3. The campaign will be launched with a barbecue to be held at the camp, known as "Joyland," and Negro county leaders are expected to attend to aid in the money raising effort which will continue until the job is done. 9-2-45

The camp will be used by 4-H Clubs, Sunday Schools, city and county schools and other Negro organizations for recreation. The property has an overflowing well of 300 gallons per minute and a memorial swimming pool, costing \$5,000, is among the projects to be developed. Other expenditures proposed for the Memorial Camp project are \$2,500 for a bath house, \$4,000 for pavilion; \$250 for a fish pond and \$1,500 for six small cottages, making a total of \$13,250.00. The committee in charge of the camp development launched some time ago now has on hand \$1,500.

Members of the committee now organizing to seek the larger sum are Prof. B.J. Rountree, chairman of county groups; Rev. C.C. Brown, chairman of city groups; C. J. Adams, chairman 4-H Club Camp, L. M. Upshaw, Home Demonstration

Agent for Negroes, S. W. Boynton
Negro County Agent.

Alabama

IT'S WORTH A LITTLE MORE
Montgomery's recreation facilities are

the money is now going for and that it should be applied in such a manner. How- worse than inadequate. There is not a play- ever, people resent the way the tax was sold ground or park in the city with enough to them.

The city has a more or less clean slate are some softball diamonds and tennis now except for the big bonded debt ogre.

The only solution is to increase the city's courts, but that's not enough. There are seven recreation areas, ranging from small income.

That must be done somehow. In addition playgrounds to magnificent Oak Park, avail- able for our white citizens. There is not to earlier suggestions—what about parking

one single playground or park set aside for meters? 11-29-45

our colored citizens. Ala.

It is worth a little more to live in Mont- gomery.

What are we going to do about it?

Montgomery's financial condition does not permit the sort of outlay necessary to correct this situation. If any one doubts this, the information is available at the City Hall to prove it in detail. 11-29-45

It is a wonder that Montgomery has es- caped a juvenile delinquency problem of scandalous proportions. Denied an opportu- nity to play healthfully, there is always mischief to be devised. It is a tribute to our colored citizens that they have been able to restrain their children as well as they have by home influence alone.

Cities are not like towns. Vacant lots are few and far between and usually are of such size as to prohibit their use for ball play- ing and such-like.

As much as we may regret it, Montgom- ery has in the last 15 years grown to city size and forever left behind that happy character of a somewhat lazy but wonder- ful town.

Now the latest and largest housing de- velopment spans the city limits, and that is far away from the solidly built up areas where the population is most heavily con- centrated. Even with what building is go- ing on, there is still a serious housing shortage. (Note the letter from R. E. Niel- sen across the page.)

We need immediately some suitable play areas either city owned or leased to the city for a nominal sum where facilities can be established.

That takes money and there is no mon- ey to spare.

This is a sore subject with many who took the promise seriously that the cigarette tax would go for improved recreation facilities. Most of the outspoken resentment heard by The Advertiser has always been quali- fied by a comment that it is realized what

Clerics Denounce JC in Recreation

7-7-45 WASHINGTON

Local clergymen expressed strong disapproval of the position taken by the D. C. recreation Board last week in voting to adopt a by-law establishing jimcrow as the official policy in the use of local recreation facilities.

The Rev. E. A. Haynes, pastor of Mount Zion Methodist Church and a resident of Georgetown, pointed out to the attention of the AFRO that the civic organization in that community has a tennis court where racial fellowship is permitted.

"I would naturally be opposed to such a setup as the board has prescribed and the time has come when we must exert every effort to break down these unchristian practices and attitudes, he declared.

Concerted Action Urged

"We had hoped that this war would do more to bring people together in Christian unity, but it seems now that the war in Europe is ended, prejudice is still rearing its ugly head."

The Rev. G. O. Bullock, president, Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Society, declared, "concerted action on the part of the community should be taken to break down the barriers that make a distinction between people because of their color."

Hastie Sees Retardation

Addressing the recreation department shortly before it adopted the discriminatory regulation, Dean William H. Hastie of the Howard University Law School, declared that the action would only block the efforts of citizens who are working for inter-racial cooperation and understanding.

Dr. Edward F. Harris, president of the Washington Federation of Civic Associations, attacked the action of the board as undemocratic and as an espousal of the fascist doctrine of racial supremacy.

Jim Crow Spreads;

Separate Parks Sought By Board

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ANP) — The creeping paralysis of a Southern jimcrow pattern is spreading more and more over the already decimated body of the nation's capital. Now comes the D. C. Recreation Board—appointed, not elected—which is determined to completely segregate Negroes and whites in all public recreational activities.

After ruling all whites off a play-

ground tennis court used jointly by both racial groups over a period of years, the board is now laying plans to set up separate white and Negro areas in the federally-controlled parks of the District of Columbia. The parks are now under jurisdiction of the Department of Interior, headed by liberal Harold L. Ickes.

Ickes has ruled that there will be no segregation in the areas under his control. But the D. C. Recreation Board is planning to test Ickes' authority—with full backing of Sen. Theodore Bilbo. It plans to consider setting up the jimcrow restrictions at its meeting on August 14, hoping it will lead to a court case.

A ruling of the courts will be sought on whether the parks and recreation areas in D. C. which are under federal jurisdiction are national parks in the sense of Yellowstone National Park—or whether they are subject to the rulings of the D. C. Recreation Board since located in the District for use of District residents.

A group of 12 citizens and civic organizations, including the CIO and the NAACP, are fighting the Recreation Boards' spread of jimcrow beyond all previous bounds in the nation's capital. The organizations will be given 5 minutes each at the Aug. 14 meeting to express their views. Only one Negro is a member of the Recreation Board. She is outvoted consistently.

Separate Playgrounds

I know wars do many queer things to people, but I never thought it would have the effect of making some people feel that they are not fit to breathe the same air of a playground where Negro children play. On September 4, the Southeast Council of Citizens Associations decided to support the Board of Recreation policy of playground segregation.

I am sure it is the effect of the war, because heretofore the city, its parks, and other facilities bought and maintained by the taxpayers' money—were for the enjoyment of all.

Why should we now pattern our civic life after Hitler's program? How many promising young men have been killed or maimed while fighting to wipe out that kind of thing?

AMERICAN.

Washington, Sept. 10.

59-1945

Georgia

Negro Officer Heads

Ga. Recreation Area

ATLANTA. — (ANP) — For the first time, a Negro has been assigned commanding officer of the Washington Park recreational area, Sub-Post Fort McPherson in this city. *9-15-45 (11.2)*

He is 1st Lt. Booker W. Carter, who took over his assignment at the one base of its kind in the Southwest for Negroes.

Lt. Carter was previously at Ft. McPherson, reputedly as the first and only Negro officer ever at that base. The assignment of Lt. Carter culminated persistent agitation on the part of Atlantans who had requested that a Negro be placed as commanding officer of the recreational center. Since the beginning of the war, the former executive officers were two lieutenant colonels, one captain and several lieutenants, all white.

59-1945

Kentucky

Louisville Seeks *The Afro American* Interracial Park

Baltimore, Maryland

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Agreement to "work together" to make Elliott Park available for all citizens on an interracial basis, was reached on Aug. 28 between representatives of the West End Civic Club and a "protest group" which conferred with Mayor Wilson Wyatt that morning. 9-15-45

The mayor said after meeting with the protesting group that he was under the impression that there was unanimity in the request of colored people, "however, if they don't want the park, the matter is settled as far as I am concerned."

Factions Must Agree

He declared that the proposal should be settled definitely among colored people before going into it, as the desire and enthusiasm first manifested seemingly has died down. Funds for the project were available, he said.

Mayor Wyatt pointed out the inadequacy of Elliott Park and proposed a new seven-acre site, valued at \$50,000, at a conference on July 25 with representatives of the Civic Club.

Opposes Separate Parks

The club agreed to investigate the mayor's proposal to determine if such a park would meet the recreational needs in the West End, serviced only by the Shepard Park which is primarily a swimming pool.

The Civic Club wants Elliott Park integrated into a playground for all children, white and colored. There are now 3,500 colored people in the vicinity, exceeding the white population which has decreased, and they oppose separate park facilities because of a limited budget.

URGES USE OF LINCOLN BEACH, NINE MILES FROM CITY WITH NO TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Louisiana Weekly

New Orleans. — Mayor Robert Sidney Maestri of this city regrets his inability to assist in the matter of obtaining a safe, easily-accessible bathing beach for 180,000 tax-paying Negro citizens, blames the Provost Marshal of New Orleans for restricting Seabrook, urges Negroes to go nine miles to Lincoln Beach, and advises that the matter of transportation to that far-away resort be taken up with the New Orleans Public Service, local NAACP officials revealed during a press interview on Monday.

Mayor Maestri's attitude in the matter was expressed in a letter received by Daniel E. Byrd, executive secretary of the New Orleans branch NAACP, in reply to a communication sent on June 23.

The full text of the Mayor's letter follows: 7-7-45

"Daniel E. Boyd, Executive Secretary, NAACP, 3380 LaSalle Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

"Sir: "Acknowledging receipt of yours of June 23rd, wherein you request that consideration be given to Negro bathers to use certain areas on Lake Pontchartrain.

"Sometime ago Ordinance 15,804 C. C. S. was passed by the Commission Council of the City were; in view of this fact there isn't anything that can be done about the situation.

"I understand the Lincoln Beach is available to Negro bathers but that transportation facilities are lacking. Of course, this is a matter strictly up to the New Orleans Public Service and my suggestion is that you take it up with them direct.

"Regretting my inability to assist in this matter, I remain,

"Sincerely,
ROBERT S. MAESTRI,
Mayor."

Louisiana

permission was granted military officials to use the lakefront area on May 3, 1944.

Last week it was explained by Public Safety Commissioner Gomila that there is only one section of the lakefront where swimming is prohibited by law. That section is covered by Ordinance 16542 and is specified as "between Franklin Avenue and the Industrial Canal." Swimming is allowed anywhere else along the lakefront, he explained.

Failure of the city to provide any swimming facilities for 180,000 Negroes except the 20-year-old Sylvania F. Williams pool located in Thom Lafon Plaground, is being held at least partially responsible for the deaths of six youths who drowned this season while swimming in dangerous waters.

The letter to which Mayor Maestri replied, requested the following information which remains unanswered at press time:

"1. If Negroes conduct themselves in an orderly manner, come to the lakefront in bathing suits and leave in bathing suits, will they be permitted to swim in the areas of the lakefront that are not restricted by city ordinance, or are not implied as sections reserved for whites, without molestation from police?" 7-7-45

"2. We further request that in view of the gravity of the situation that the City of New Orleans erect a temporary bathing house along the lakefront until such time as a permanent one can be erected for the use of Negroes."

The letter to the mayor also stated that other Southern cities have bathing facilities for Negroes and that New Orleans should not fail to provide same.

Brigadier General Fremont B. Hodson, commanding officer of the New Orleans Port of Embarkation, said this week that the City of New Orleans initially granted permission to military officials to use part of the lakefront area on May 3, 1944.

In late 1943, however, when Mayor Maestri was written by the NAACP concerning the passage of City Ordinance 16542 in July of that year, the mayor said the ordinance which prohibited bathing at the only section of the lakefront used by Negroes had been passed at the request of military officials. Military officials, through Brigadier General Louis F. Guerre, said at that time that the army had not requested such action and that the closing was the responsibility of the municipality. 7-7-45

Two weeks ago, however, Brigadier General Fremont Hodson informed the NAACP that the area was restricted, and on June 26, he informed NAACP officials that

59-1945

North Carolina

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Citizen-Times (Sunday)
Cir. S. 35,627

JUL 8-1945

KANNASPOLIS, N. C.
INDEPENDENT
Cir. D. 5,324 — S. 5,334

AUG 27 1945

PLAY FACILITIES FOR NEGROES ARE PROVIDED BY CITY

For Negroes Only

North Carolina Has Set Aside a Park For Exclusive Use of Colored Citizens

A North Carolina experiment in racial relations has proved so successful that the idea is likely to find expression in developments throughout the state..

Jones lake, a 225-acre cypress lake in eastern North Carolina, has been set aside for the use of Negro citizens only. Over 1,000 Negroes use the bathhouse each week, and many more use other facilities on which there is no count.

This growing use, and the fact that the patrons have taken exceedingly good care of their park, has convinced the state park service that its recommendations for additional colored parks should be acted upon by the state.

With 1,000 acres of land adjacent to the lake, the park has a modern bathhouse with shower and foot-baths, a concession stand, toilet facilities, picnic shelters and tables, a boat dock and boats, and baseball diamond.

In addition to individuals, the area is used by Boy Scouts, churches, club and other organizations. Organized groups may also use the area for camping.

North Carolina is providing equal opportunities in education for its minority race, and now comes forward with increased recreational facilities. In so doing, the state is taking the lead in meeting the obligations which it recognizes to all its citizens.

Work Is Similar To That Being Done At Areas For White People

The city recreation program at Negro playgrounds is now in operation, Miss Augusta Harrett, city recreation director, said yesterday.

The work that is being done is similar to that done at the white recreation centers in the city and the program will continue through the summer.

At Burton street school grounds, Hill street school grounds, and Walton street park, programs are conducted from 9 until 12 o'clock and from 3:30 until 7:30 o'clock each day, Monday through Friday.

At the Valley street recreation center a program is conducted daily from 9 until 8 o'clock.

In addition a program is conducted from 9 until 12 o'clock at Brown's temple, and at the lot on Southside avenue, where the old ball park was located, from 4 until 8 o'clock. These programs are conducted Monday through Friday.

The following staff has been named to handle the Negro recreation program under an advisory committee: C. L. Moore, director, Gladys Cowan, Adele Ruffin, Dodson Blakely, Ottis Greer, and Charlie Green.

59-1945

Oklahoma

What About This Edwards Park?

The Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City Negroes should enter now their protest against the unwillingness of the city to improve the 49-acre Edwards Park immediately east of the city, which was July one year ago dedicated with such fan-fare and municipal blessings. This writer visited this tract of land July 4 of this year to find it still a tangled plot of weeds and underbrush, unfit for recreational purposes. *Oklahoma City, Okla.*

It should be recalled that a recalcitrant city government for ten long years refused to dedicate this park site for Negro occupancy and use, and only last year, following considerable effort on the part of Councilmen Percy Jones and Charles Litton, the park department was willing to accede to official dedication and use of the tract by Negroes. The Edwards Addition, growing by leaps and bounds, finally wiped out all opposition to the charge that the tract was in a white neighborhood, and the recent purchase of additional acreage up as far as Twentieth street by the Edwards Realty Company, completely bars the park from potential white development from the north. *7-21-45*

The Oklahoma City Negro Chamber of Commerce and the Negro citizens generally, should inquire immediately as to the good intentions of city government. Ten years ago the city was maintaining 1400 acres of park land for its white citizenry, while in 1945 this little rugged tract of land, comprising the Edwards park site, which could be made one of the most beautiful recreational centers in the Sooner capital, is a rendezvous for snakes, musquitos and chiggers. If a citizen wants a fine opportunity to skin up his precious shoes, and the ladies want to be sure of a run in their best pair of hose, the surest way to obtain this goal is to spend a half hour in undeveloped Edwards park.

Improvement and beautification of the Edwards park should be the paramount issue in the next city election. This writer has recently visited various sections of the Far South where parks and playgrounds in states where Negroes do not have the right to vote, have been generously provided for the blacks. Oklahoma City now has around 20,000 Negroes residing in the second ward and 7000 in other sections of the city. This potential voting strength should be sufficiently impressive in securing the desired improvement in park facilities for Negroes in Oklahoma City.

59-1945

Mayor Opens New Playground

Mayor LaGuardia officially opened the new P. S. 44 Playground bounded by Monroe and Madison sts and Sumner and Throop avs, Brooklyn, on Wednesday, December 27th, at 3:30 pm. N.Y.

Provided in the new area are a school garden, an open air classroom, a comfort station, wading pool, handball courts, play apparatus, a softball diamond, and a roller skating area. 1-6-45

After the war the proposed public school will be constructed on the Throop av side of the block. At that time the area will be operated by the Board of Education during school hours and at all other times by the Department of Parks for general community use.

Petersburg Authorizes Playground for Negroes

PETERSBURG, June 6—City Council has authorized the purchase of new equipment for the city's playgrounds and establishment of a new playground for Negro children at Jones Street School. Construction of a wading pool at Blandford School also has been ordered by Council. Acquisition of the additional equipment will cost \$1,185 and construction of the wading pool \$1,000. The decision of Council also to eliminate fees for use of the municipal tennis courts in Lee Park also means in loss in court fees of approximately \$300.

Parks and Playgrounds

Mayor La Guardia Attends And Boro President Cashmore Officially Opens New Sumner-Monroe Play'nd



IN THE SWING IS LOUISE HARRISON, 7, of 452 Madison St. swinging her is Mayor La Guardia, and Borough President Cashmore, place, the New Sumner-Monroe Playground.

(Photos taken by the Brooklyn Tribune and Brooklyn Daily Eagle) arrived in a Police car after the ceremonies had ended, took the hand of the youngest tot present, Ronald Parkerville, 16 months, of 433-A Monroe St., and escorted him to a slide, Borough President Cashmore did the same with Julian Armante, 6, of 377 Monroe St. Other officials present were, Municipal Court Justice Harry P. Espig, George E. Spargo, General Manager of the Triboro Bridge Authority.

Although it was bitter cold, and starting snowing before the playground was officially opened, about three hundred neighborhood children attended the opening ceremonies. In his dedicatory address Borough President Cashmore said "This borough has more than 300,000 boys in the armed forces. If a vote was taken whether they wanted playgrounds constructed in wartime the answer would be yes. This playground should have been built a long time ago". Mayor La Guardia who ar-

Playground Resigns In

CHARLESTON, S. C. — (ANP)—Protesting against failure of the city to provide playground and recreational facilities for Negroes, the Negro Playground committee resigned in full Friday, declaring, "we now stand in bad light with our own people." 2-24-45

The letter of resignation was signed by Edward Simmons, businessman; Dr. T. E. Miller Jr., William H. Grayson, supervisor of Negro schools; Wilmet J. Fraser, principal of Archer school and Samuel Faber. Copies went to Mayor E. Edward Wehman Jr., G. Sims McDowell, chairman of the city committee on parks and playgrounds, and to newspapers.

Informed sources say the committee quit because despite many years of work, they had finally found Negroes without a single playground. Harmon field, on which is located the lone Negro swimming pool, and Fraser field are both occupied by the army which, officials say, plans to release Harmon field in July.

The committee's files show considerable correspondence in attempts to obtain areas for Negroes. Succeeding in getting former Mayor Burner R. Maybank to agree to equip a park site on the east side near the Cooper River court and Archer school in 1937, the plan was killed when it came before A. H. VonKolnitz, then chairman of the board of parks and playgrounds. A site at the foot of Calhoun street (east) was obtained but never developed and was finally abandoned. 2-24-45

The committee's letter of resignation said in part: "Taking an inventory of the present recreational program for Negroes, we are forced to admit that no constructive work has been or is being done in this period of great and serious need. In fact, the facilities for Negroes—are now at a negative stage."

BRUNSWICK, GA. NEWS

JUN 2-1945

PARK FOR COLORED PEOPLE IS OPENED

Brunswick's colored recreation park opened last night, with indications of a very successful season.

The club house has been renovated throughout, with the installation of new furniture, games, ping pong tables, etc., while books, mag-

azines and quiet games are available.

The schedule for the coming week will be as follows: Club house open daily from 4 to 10 p. m. Sunday, open house; Monday, whist tournament; Tuesday, informal dancing and open house; Wednesday, bowling party, ping pong tournament, dance with Doc Sausage and his "Five Pork Chops" at the pavilion; Thursday, quiet games, checker contest; Friday, bridge club and dance.

The swimming pool will formally open tomorrow at 3 o'clock with a program including underwater swimming contest, technique in life-saving by the life guards, finding sunken treasure; soft ball game 5:30, Risley High vs. Buggs Homes. Classes in swimming and tennis will be taught.

Dr. Theodore M. Howard To Open Good Will Park For Race At Md. Bayou, Miss.

6-15-45
BY STAFF WRITER

Mound Bayou, Mississippi, blazing new trails toward a place in the Delta, even greater than what the founders must have envisaged over fifty years ago, is now looking forward to her second great community venture within the brief period of four years.

Taborian Hospital, sponsored by the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights and Daughters of Tabors gave this famous all-colored town

its first, major lift since Mound Bayou observed its Golden Anniversary in 1937. With the construction of this institution and its present operations along the most modern lines known to medical science, Negroes of Mississippi are due for a higher standard of health.

Latest development at Mound Bayou is the Good Will Park and Recreational Center. The Park, located on Highway 61, just opposite of the Taborian Hospital, will be given a formal opening Sunday, June 24, and ceremonies will feature, two major addresses, one by Gov. Thomas Bailey of Mississippi; and the other by Dr. Walter S. Davis, president of Tennessee State College.

Converging on Mound Bayou for the Good Will Park Opening Ceremonies will be people from all over the Tri-States. Residents of the community are preparing to receive their largest out-of-town crowds since mid-summer of 1937 when Mound Bayou reached its half century mark. During the program, Mayor Ben Green will extend the welcome and P. M. Smith, International Grand Mentor, Nights and Daughters of Tabors of the World, will preside as master of ceremonies.

NEW PERSONALITY ON SCENE

Behind the development of Good Will Park, constructed at an overall cost of nearly \$40,000, is one of the most influential personalities to appear on the public scene in the Mississippi Delta. He is young Dr. Theodore Roosevelt M. Howard, Chief of Surgery of Taborian Hospital.

Youthful, energetic and ingenious Dr. Howard came to Mound Bayou

in 1942 to head up the hospital, but he brought with him more than medical and surgical skill. He immediately discerned the vast potentialities of Mound Bayou and its surrounding areas and initiated a number of plans for the industrial, and social progress of his people.

"Mound Bayou is in the center of the densest section of the Negro population of the United States," Dr. Howard said. "No thought in past years has been given to these Negroes as social beings. They are in need of recreation and entertainment and should be given more than "juke box" joints to meet this need."

With this thought uppermost on his mind, Dr. Howard has given practically all his spare time in the promotion of just such community projects as the Good Will Park. Once he starts with his plans, which meant expenditures of great sums of his personal monies, he gained support from both colored and white people of Bolivar County.

Good Will Park includes one of the most modern swimming pools in the South for Negroes. There are other such attractions for the visitors as the botanical garden, the aquarium, a miniature zoo, a regulation size tennis court, croquet yard, patio and dominating the scene is the beautiful Green Parrot Inn, a clean, efficiently operated cafe. The park is situated on the ground once used as a cotton gin and oil mill during early plantation days of the founders.

Dr. Howard believes that wholesome recreation, along with a development of rural life in general, will be one of the most practical ways of keeping the returning servicemen on the farms. "One of the most stabilizing factors in rural life and the small communities is improvement of housing facilities for Negroes," Dr. Howard said.

As a step in this direction, the young surgeon has already undertaken the job of building an eight-unit housing project near his own residence. These houses will be installed with modern plumbing facilities, electric lights and laid out for wholesome community living on part of the tenants.

He and Mrs. Howard have also

given primary interest to live stock, poultry and gardening. They have more than a thousand heads of Chickens, three hundred turkeys, registered Holstein cows, Poland China hogs, sheep and fine breed of horses. Mrs. Howard, a native Californian, has taken special interests in all the farm projects.

Looking to the future of Mound Bayou, Dr. Howard added that the community has a good opportunity to obtain a Veterans Hospital. With other leaders of the town, and Bolivar County, the physician is continuing to work toward the obtaining of the Veterans Hospital as a post war development.

Other proposed buildings, anticipated for the immediate future, will be the construction of a 12-unit hotel, and an auditorium where public programs can be staged at regular intervals. It is expected that with such developments, outstanding personalities of both races can be brought to the people of the town as a community service.

Native of Kentucky, Dr. Howard attended the public schools of his home town of Murray. He then attended the Oakwood Junior College, Huntsville, Alabama where he received his high school and one year of college work; went to Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska for his B. S. Degree, and to the College of Medical Evangelists, Los Angeles, California for a full course in medicine. Following graduation from this college in 1936, Dr. Howard did post graduate work in St. Louis, Missouri and at the Mayo's Clinic.

Although still relatively a youth, Dr. Howard has performed more than 6,000 major operations. Before as medical director of Riverside Sanitarium, Nashville; as visiting surgeons at George W. Hubbard Hospital.

Taborian Hospital, to which he was appointed in 1942 as Chief Surgeon, has the latest in surgical and laboratory equipment, including X-Ray machines. Its personnel is composed of four physicians, seven graduate nurses and a number of orderlies.

The Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights and Daughters of Ta-

bors which sponsors the hospital has a membership of 40,000 in the state. Members pay twenty-five cents per month or three dollars a year for hospitalization. This fee gives them the right to spend upward to thirty-one days in the hospital with surgery, and other services the institution offers.

The Taborians are planning to construct a \$35,000 annex to their hospital during the next twelve months, it was learned. Near Good Will Park, Dr. Howard operates his private clinic which has become a harmonious part of the general program of the physician for the protection of the physical well being of his neighbors.

Playground for Negroes

To The News and Courier:

In answer to the question whether I would be willing to have a playground next door to my home or across the street from it, I would say that if the playground were properly protected by police regulations, I would have no objections. If asked my choice I would prefer to have a negro playground in proximity to my home than one for the whites, for it seems that the police authorities regulate the negroes more than they do the whites.

I have friends whose property has been injured and their peace greatly disturbed by the depredations of white boys, who for social, or perhaps for political reasons, are apparently immune from police authority.

Further answering, I would say that the existing playgrounds in the city do not seem to have depreciated real estate values. In regard to the expression, "North of Broad street", in my 25 years experience selling Charleston real estate, I have never used that term, and believe it to be unfortunate that somehow it has crept into our nomenclature.

If I have not answered to their satisfaction the questions of "the white home owners north of Broad street", I would be very happy to receive them at my home and meet and talk with them in person. I have certain convictions and am not afraid to express them publicly or privately.

I will be glad to meet and talk with Mrs. Abney at my home, where I also have a branch real estate office, if she would honor me with a visit.

SUSAN P. FROST

27 King street.

The Westwood Park Issue

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Being a taxpayer and living about two blocks from the Westwood Negro settlement gives me a right to express my views on the park subject. 5-29-45

I am situated on a hill near this Negro settlement, and when I look in that direction I look down on a group of tumble-down houses. These Negroes have had a lot to say about making this area a spot of beauty, but have done nothing about it for 90 years. If they remain there, nothing will be done for another 90 years.

This little settlement, comprising approximately 30 acres, is a rotten spot in an otherwise very good apple. It blocks further development of the property between Patterson Avenue and Monument from Tuckahoe Street westward, about 200 acres of otherwise very valuable land, both from the standpoint of investments and tax values. If the city should cut streets in the area and pave them, install sewage and water lines at the cost of nearly \$300,000, it would still collect taxes from the area of from \$1,200 to \$1,500 a year. No one would invest this sum for so small a return, and I do not believe the taxpayers of Richmond should allow it to be done at their expense. (The city made a great mistake when it annexed this area.) Some progressive real estate firm should buy this property and develop it after the war. 5-29-45

As for the location of the park, this site is nearly centrally located in the far West End, it is almost entirely within the present city limits and is served by adequate public conveyance. There is enough level ground for tennis courts and a baseball field. There are also wooded hills and ravines which would be ideal for picnic grounds, terraces and walks. Furthermore, the Westhampton section badly needs a swimming pool. In other words, it would be wise to spend the \$300,000 for a park in this location and allow the surrounding area to develop for maximum tax values.

The other two sites selected for the park are not suitable, one site being entirely outside of the city limits, not accessible by public conveyance, and without any natural advantages. The other site is about 90 per cent outside of the city limits, and has only one good feature, that is being adjacent to Westhampton School.

I am not in favor of mistreating Negroes or anyone, but I do not believe anything should be allowed to stand in the path of the future residential development of Richmond. 5-29-45

I am highly in favor of building the park in the section which in-

Parks- Virginia

scribed as a "tumble-down" settlement, but I do not favor the

cludes the Westwood Negro settlement, but I do not favor the paper as presented to City Council. I think these people should be allowed to occupy their houses on the same basis they now occupy them for six months after the war. At the end of the war the city should give them two choices, either pay them the assessed value of their property, plus 33 1/2 per cent for contingencies, or buy acreage adjacent to another Negro settlement in the county, cut in roadways and build houses identical in size and conveniences to the ones now used. This project should be turned over to some real estate developer on a contract basis; otherwise it should be accepted as written.

J. H. SAUNDERS.

Richmond,

**RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS-LEADER**

Cir. D. 81,214

MAY 30 1945

**Council to Face
2 Choices in
Parkwood Issue**

Common Council next Monday night probably will decide finally the fate of the proposed Westwood Park, which would result in the removal of 65 Negro families from their 80-year-old settlement in the West End.

It will receive the Richeson park paper with the recommendation of the Utilities Committee that it be adopted, and with the recommendation of the Finance Committee that it be rejected. Council then can make its own choice.

The Finance Committee last night recommended rejection of the paper by a voice vote after voting, 6 to 3, against recommending its passage.

Voting for the park site were Aldermen Beverly H. Davis, and George B. Sheard, and Councilman Cecil Harris. Opposing the proposal, described as a move primarily aimed at the removal of the Negro settlement, were Aldermen L. R. Brown and J. Vernon Rice, and Councilmen Robert M. Bradley, H. G. Dunford, Ralph C. Eaton and Russell J. Tinsley.

Previously the Utilities Committee had recommended acquisition of the site which would cost nearly \$300,000, by a vote of 5 to 3. The paper was introduced in January.

If the proposal to acquire the Negro settlement fails, as is now predicted, the city will face another proposal to extend full city facilities to what has been de-

RACIAL FEELING SEEN

"You can't keep the racial feeling out of it," said Rev. W. L. Ransom, Negro preacher and leader in the fight. "These people don't like the presence of tumble-down shacks, but they fail to realize that tumble-down salaries usually lead to tumble-down homes—and that doesn't mean that these people have tumble-down ability or tumble-down character."

"Some persons," he added, "are willing to spend any amount of the city's money—these people's money—to get them out of Westwood. . . . White people don't care about the tumble-down condition of the Negro just so long as this condition is out of his sight."

"The Negro must improve himself with a trowel in one hand and a sword in the other. . . . I sometimes think the Negro will get to Heaven, not so much for what he has accomplished, but because of the way he had to accomplish it. . . ."

He referred to \$2,500 the Negroes of Richmond had to expend to get the Supreme Court to rule out a racial integrity ordinance passed by Council nearly 20 years ago and said the race had been forced to spend \$5,000 to force the State and localities to pay Negro teachers on an equality with white teachers for equal services.

Numerous leaders, white and Negro, voiced their opposition to the proposal. These protests came from the Richmond Protestant Ministers' Association, the Richmond Federation of Church Women, the Richmond League of Women Voters, the Methodist ministers' organization and numerous individuals.

Several persons who previously had signed cards calling for the establishment of a park asked that their names be withdrawn because they had been misinformed.

Walter Craigie, appearing as an individual, said the matter was purely a racial issue, and that persons, talking to him about it, have referred to the measure as one to remove a "cancerous growth." If the bill goes through, he said, he hoped it would carry an additional \$75 to be used for the erection of a stone marker to some of the citizens of that area in memory of their effort to eject the citizens of Westwood from their homes.

RICHESON ONLY PROPONENT

Not much was added in the way of factual testimony that had not been brought out in previous hearings, and Alderman Frank S. Richeson, patron of the paper,

appeared as its only proponent. He insisted on the need for a 130-acre park in this area, and said the other two sites, proposed by the City Planning Commission, were too far out.

Some of the Councilmen argued that if the city has \$300,000 to spend, it should first spend money on such necessary and desirable things as swimming pools and small community recreation areas, before providing a large area for passive recreation. It was pointed out that schools should have more recreational areas around them.

It also was pointed out that the Westhampton area is not a crowded area, and that most of the homes are established on lots amply large to allow children plenty of play room.

A paper is pending, providing city services for the Westwood settlement, which is an area in which dry toilets exist. It is anticipated that the proposal to extend city improvements to the 30-acre settlement will start another round of controversy should Council accept the Finance Committee recommendation of rejection.

Westwood Citizens Grateful

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

We, the Negro population of the Westwood community, take this means of thanking all who have come to our aid for their untiring efforts, their many days and nights of unselfish sacrifice and their great belief in our worth and ability to be good citizens. We shall endeavor to prove to them that all the good faith they have in us will never go unrewarded.

Our sincere thanks and wishes for their continued health and success! We realize that without them our cause would have been lost.

WESTWOOD CIVIC LEAGUE,

Allen Price, President.

Richmond.

SEP 12 1945

Decision on Negro Memorial Site Deferred By Councilmen

City Council has taken under advisement for later decision the proposal of the Living War Memorial Council that it be permitted to create two athletic and recreational parks at Lakewood and Memorial Park, respectively, for white and Negro residents with a fund of more than \$500,000, which it proposes to raise by popular subscription.

The action was taken yesterday following a heated public hearing which recalled the controversy over the establishment of a public Negro bathing beach more than 15 years ago.

Memorial Park Site Opposed

Vigorous opposition was expressed by white residents of Brambleton and Chesterfield Heights, including ministers of churches in the section, all of whom professed approval of the idea of a recreational park for Negroes—but at some other location than Memorial Park, now the site of a nine-hole 60-acre golf course.

No one was present to oppose the establishment of a living war memorial in the form of an athletic and recreational center for white residents proposed for the Lakewood Park tract recently acquired by the city.

The Rev. Fred A. Bobbitt, pastor of Park Avenue Baptist Church, warned that to turn Memorial Park into a Negro recreational center would be "an entering wedge to change the population of that whole section" and that it would be "a great injustice to a multitude of people."

"We are not interested in anything that would take any of the luxuries or necessities of life from the colored race," the minister insisted. "We want them to have the best we can provide—it is only a matter of location." He said that turning Brambleton into a colored district would "cut off the only approach to the city by highway that is not already through a colored section."

Negro Speaker Heard

P. B. Young, Jr., of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, Negro newspaper, made a plea for fairness to the Negro population, and recalled that when the public Negro bathing beach was under consideration, white people opposed every specific suggestion of a location, and that over this opposition a site at East Ocean View was chosen "far away from everything."

a large federal public housing project for Negroes, adjoins Memorial Park, and said he did not believe this to be a "temporary" project, as some of the objectors contended.

The Rev. O. D. Poythress was one of several who objected on the grounds that Memorial Park should be retained as a golf course. He pointed out it is one of only two public courses in the city, both of which are overcrowded.

"And it is unwise to do this in Brambleton," he added. "Brambleton has been kicked around quite a bit. Why not build the colored playground somewhere else?"

James Elliott said he learned to play golf at Memorial Park, and had a warm spot in his heart for it. He pointed out that it takes years to develop a golf course and that Memorial Park has had more than 20 years of such development.

W. E. Coley also spoke on this theme, and suggested also that no decision be made on any living war memorial until the "boys most interested come home" and are given an opportunity to express themselves.

"I am asking you to delay action a bit, and if it's a good thing, it should be sponsored heavily by the city and by committees from the Association of Commerce, veterans' organizations and other groups."

Blair Eubanks, president of the Living War Memorial Council, said the council still had an open mind on locations, but thought that the plan should take care of all races and creeds. He said all meetings of the organization were open to the public, and that at any time the council would like to hear of sites which citizens may think are more convenient or more available.

Other Opposition Speakers

Others speaking against the use of Memorial Park for the purpose included Mrs. C. A. Sousa and Mrs. M. O. Sivills.

Mayor James W. Reed announced that council would make no "hasty" decision on so controversial a matter, but would study the matter fully. A motion introduced by Councilman J. Rives Worsham was adopted that the city clerk submit a transcript of the testimony at yesterday's hearing to each member of council to assist them in considering the problem.

Council placed on first reading an ordinance granting permission to A. L. Landreth and Alvin Margolius to operate a motion picture theater for Negro patrons on the east side of Park Avenue between Princess Anne Road and Broad Creek Road.

This application also was vigorously opposed by some of the same Brambleton residents, who said that the theater there would result in crowds of Negroes overflowing into the Brambleton section and possibly causing trouble.

Members of council pointed out, however, that the proposed theater was in a Negro section and that the permit could not be properly denied.

Playground for Colored

To The News and Courier:

A few months back we sent this article to The News and Courier and you were kind enough to print it in your daily paper for us. May we thank you kindly for doing that for us.

As a daily reader of The News and Courier, I have read several articles in behalf of this project, but the best was the one I read in the Sunday edition entitled Playground for Negroes. In this article the lady pointed out some of the reasons why she would rather have a negro playground near her house than a white. We thank the lady for her frankness. We often wonder why white children are treated better by policemen than negroes but the lady answered that question for us in her article.

Well, we see that the ill-treatment of negro children is due to political reasons. May we say that that is a challenge to the negro parents.

Let us advise you to become citizens and help put in office those men who will see that our children are treated better by policemen.

You may ask how can this be done; well, I think it is simple . . . all that you need to do is to get your hand on a ballot and help elect city officers and then you may ask for justice because you help put the man in office. Until this is done, you need not look for justice, because it isn't gotten that way in any part of the world and especially in South Carolina.

JOHN H. WRIGHTEN

Charleston.